



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.

Operations Directive

NUMBER: 06-15

August 17, 2006

TO: All Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service personnel
FROM: Division Chief Philip Guercio *Philip Guercio*
SUBJECT: Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Protocol (CPAP)

Montgomery County is one of numerous jurisdictions participating in a comprehensive State-wide network of resources that delivers the nation's finest emergency medical care. As a participant, Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service (MCFRS) delivers a sophisticated level of tiered emergency medical care to our citizens.

To keep pace with the rapidly-developing field of emergency medicine, MCFRS has committed to delivering the Maryland Medical Protocol-approved Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) treatment. This low cost, high impact airway management device has been field-validated and institutionally reviewed as an effective method of treatment and care. MCFRS' EMS Section, in cooperation with the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), has been evaluating this treatment for more than 12 months. The consensus between MIEMSS and MCFRS is that this is an effective treatment and will positively impact several hundred patients each year.

The requirements for the delivery of this treatment obligate each Local Fire Rescue Department (LFRD) or MCFRS funding source to purchase a CPAP administration device for each ALS-capable transport unit, and support materials for field use. MCFRS will provide CPAP devices for training at the Public Safety Training Academy, a train the trainer program, and quality assurance measurement.

For additional information, please contact either Assistant Chief Mike McAdams at 240-777-2425 or Captain John Kinsley, MCFRS' Quality Assurance Officer, at 240-777-2246.